



Serial No.: 10/088,468
Petition Dated: February 20, 2004
Practitioner's Docket No.: 967_029

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Toshiro Nishio and Yutaka Nio

February 20, 2004

RECEIVED

Serial No.: 10/088,468

Art Unit: 2614

FEB 27 2004

Filed: June 11, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

Technology Center 2600

For: SIGNAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 20, 2004.

Christine M. Holmes

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.102(d)

Sir:

The applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to make special the examining procedure for the subject application and submit herewith the required fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.117(h).

A copy of the claims 15-32 are enclosed herewith. The applicants believe that all of the claims are directed to a single invention.

The present application is based on a PCT application on which a search was conducted by the Japanese Patent Office. A copy of that search report is enclosed herewith. Copies of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter by the present claims are already of record inasmuch as they were presented in a recently filed Information Disclosure Statement. A detailed discussion of those references, together with how the claimed subject patent matter is patentable over those references is presented hereinbelow.

In the international search report relating to the present application, the following documents are cited as "documents recognized as relevant".

1. Japanese Published Patent Application No. Hei. 01-261989
2. Japanese Published Patent Application No. Hei. 06-105337
3. Japanese Published Patent Application No. Hei. 11-187034

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for transmitting a base band video signal which includes a decoded video signal and a signal

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specifying the format of a video before the decoded video signal is decoded. In this way, an appropriate processing can be performed to a base band video signal on the basis of information relating to the video signal before the base band video signal is decoded.

None of the more relevant references as described hereinabove, taken individually or in combination, shows or suggests the features of this invention.

On the basis of the above information, the applicants request that the subject application be examined on an accelerated basis.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

By: _____

Dana F. Bigelow

Reg. No. 26,441

DFB/cmh

Telephone: (315) 425-9000

Customer No.: 20874

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-14. (Cancelled)
15. (New) A signal transmission unit, comprising:
a signal transmitter transmitting a baseband video signal having a decoded video signal and transmitting information specifying video format of a video signal before the decoded video signal is decoded.
16. (New) A signal transmission unit, comprising:
a signal transmitter transmitting a baseband video signal having a decoded video signal and transmitting information specifying video format by which the video signal is encoded.
17. (New) The signal transmission unit according to claim 15, wherein the information is transmitted in a blank period of the baseband video signal.
18. (New) The signal transmission unit according to claim 16, wherein the information is transmitted in a blank period of the baseband video signal.
19. (New) A signal transmission method, comprising:
transmitting a baseband video signal having a decoded video signal; and
transmitting information specifying video format of a video signal before the decoded video signal is decoded.
20. (New) A signal transmission method, comprising:
transmitting a baseband video signal having a decoded video signal; and

transmitting information specifying video format by which the video signal is encoded.

21. (New) The signal transmission method according to claim 19, wherein the information transmitted in a blank period of the baseband video signal.

22. (New) The signal transmission method according to claim 20, wherein the information transmitted in a blank period of the baseband video signal.

23. (New) A signal transmission apparatus, comprising
a signal transmitter operable to transmit a baseband video signal having a decoded video signal and operable to transmit information specifying a picture decoding method of a predetermined standard used to decode a video signal before the decoded video signal is decoded.

24. (New) A signal transmission apparatus, comprising:
a signal transmitter operable to transmit a baseband video signal having a decoded video signal and operable to transmit information specifying a picture encoding method of a predetermined standard used to encode a video signal to the decoded video signal.

25. (New) A signal receiving apparatus, comprising:
a receiver operable to receive a baseband video signal having a decoded picture and operable to receive information specifying a picture decoding method of a predetermined standard used to decode a picture before the decoded picture is decoded; and

a controller operable to control quality of the decoded video signal by each picture, using the information.

26. (New) A signal receiving apparatus, comprising:
a receiver operable to receive a baseband video signal having a decoded picture and operable to receive information specifying a picture encoding method of a predetermined standard used to encode a picture; and
a controller operable to control quality of each decoded picture, using the information.

27. (New) The signal receiving apparatus according to claim 25, wherein noise elimination is preformed for each picture by the controller.

28. (New) The signal receiving apparatus according to claim 26, wherein noise elimination is preformed for each picture by the controller.

29. (New) The signal transmission apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined standard is MPEG standard and the picture encoding method is discriminated by I, P, and B pictures.

30. (New) The signal transmission apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the predetermined standard is MPEG standard and the picture encoding method is discriminated by I, P, and B pictures.

31. (New) The signal transmission apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined standard is MPEG standard and the picture decoding method is discriminated by I, P, and B pictures.

32. (New) The signal transmission apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the predetermined standard is MPEG standard and the picture decoding method is discriminated by I, P, and B pictures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP01/06340

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ H04N11/06, 5/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ H04N11/00-11/24, 5/38-5/63

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2001
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2001	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2001

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 1-261989 A (Canon Inc.), 18 October, 1989 (18.10.89), Full text; Fig. 1 & US 5067010 A	1-2
Y	JP 6-105337 A (International Business Machines Corporation), 15 April, 1994 (15.04.94), Full text; Fig. 1 & EP 581715 A1 & CA 2094523 A & US 5909254 A	1-2
X Y A	JP 11-187034 A (Matsushita Electric Ind. Co., Ltd.), 09 July, 1999 (09.07.99), Full text; all drawings (Family: none)	3 11 4-10, 12-14

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
12 October, 2001 (12.10.01)Date of mailing of the international search report
23 October, 2001 (23.10.01)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP01/06340

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 9-93505 A (Toshiba Corporation), 04 April, 1997 (04.04.97), Full text; all drawings & EP 766469 A2 & US 5790204 A & KR 97019591 A & TW 349313 A & CN 1150733 A	11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP01/06340

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Claims 1-2 relate to a signal transmission system for encoding and transmitting a luminance signal and a color-difference signal, and receiving and decoding the transmitted luminance signal and color-difference signal.

Claims 3-14 relate to a signal transmission system for outputting information on the performances of a signal reception device to a signal transmission device.

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

国際調査報告

国際出願番号 PCT/JPO1/06340

A. 発明の属する分野の分類 (国際特許分類 (IPC))

Int. Cl⁷ H04N11/06, 5/44

B. 調査を行った分野

調査を行った最小限資料 (国際特許分類 (IPC))

Int. Cl⁷ H04N11/00-11/24, 5/38-5/63

最小限資料以外の資料で調査を行った分野に含まれるもの

日本国実用新案公報 1922-1996年
 日本国公開実用新案公報 1971-2001年
 日本国登録実用新案公報 1994-2001年
 日本国実用新案登録公報 1996-2001年

国際調査で使用した電子データベース (データベースの名称、調査に使用した用語)

C. 関連すると認められる文献

引用文献の カテゴリー*	引用文献名 及び一部の箇所が関連するときは、その関連する箇所の表示	関連する 請求の範囲の番号
Y	JP 1-261989 A (キャノン株式会社) 18. 10月. 1989 (18. 10. 89) 全文, 第1図 & US 5067010 A	1-2
Y	JP 6-105337 A (インターナショナル・ビジネス・ マシーンズ・コーポレーション) 15. 4月. 1994 (15. 04. 94) 全文, 第1図 & EP 581715 A1 & CA 2094523 A & US 5909254 A	1-2

☒ C欄の続きにも文献が列挙されている。☐ パテントファミリーに関する別紙を参照。

* 引用文献のカテゴリー

「A」 特に関連のある文献ではなく、一般的技術水準を示すもの

「E」 国際出願日前の出願または特許であるが、国際出願日以後に公表されたもの

「L」 優先権主張に疑義を提起する文献又は他の文献の発行日若しくは他の特別な理由を確立するために引用する文献 (理由を付す)

「O」 口頭による開示、使用、展示等に言及する文献

「P」 国際出願日前で、かつ優先権の主張の基礎となる出願

の日の後に公表された文献

「T」 国際出願日又は優先日後に公表された文献であって出願と矛盾するものではなく、発明の原理又は理論の理解のために引用するもの

「X」 特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献のみで発明の新規性又は進歩性がないと考えられるもの

「Y」 特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献と他の1以上の文献との、当業者にとって自明である組合せによって進歩性がないと考えられるもの

「&」 同一パテントファミリー文献

国際調査を完了した日

12. 10. 01

国際調査報告の発送日

23.10.01

国際調査機関の名称及びあて先

日本国特許庁 (ISA/J.P)

郵便番号100-8915

東京都千代田区霞が関三丁目4番3号

特許庁審査官 (権限のある職員)

佐藤 直樹

SP

9562

電話番号 03-3581-1101 内線 3581

第Ⅰ欄 請求の範囲の一部の調査ができないときの意見 (第1ページの2の続き)

法第8条第3項(PCT17条(2)(a))の規定により、この国際調査報告は次の理由により請求の範囲の一部について作成しなかった。

1. ☐ 請求の範囲 _____ は、この国際調査機関が調査をすることを要しない対象に係るものである。つまり、
2. ☐ 請求の範囲 _____ は、有意義な国際調査をすることができる程度まで所定の要件を満たしていない国際出願の部分に係るものである。つまり、
3. ☐ 請求の範囲 _____ は、従属請求の範囲であってPCT規則6.4(a)の第2文及び第3文の規定に従って記載されていない。

第Ⅱ欄 発明の単一性が欠如しているときの意見 (第1ページの3の続き)

次に述べるようにこの国際出願に二以上の発明があるときの国際調査機関は認めた。

請求の範囲1-2は、輝度信号と色差信号とを符号化して送信し、送信された輝度信号と色差信号とを受信して復号化する信号伝達システムに関するものである。
請求の範囲3-14は、信号受信装置の性能に関する情報を信号送信装置へ出力する信号伝達システムに関するものである。

1. ☒ 出願人が必要な追加調査手数料をすべて期間内に納付したので、この国際調査報告は、すべての調査可能な請求の範囲について作成した。
2. ☐ 追加調査手数料を要求するまでもなく、すべての調査可能な請求の範囲について調査することができたので、追加調査手数料の納付を求めなかった。
3. ☐ 出願人が必要な追加調査手数料を一部のみしか期間内に納付しなかったため、この国際調査報告は、手数料の納付のあった次の請求の範囲のみについて作成した。
4. ☐ 出願人が必要な追加調査手数料を期間内に納付しなかったため、この国際調査報告は、請求の範囲の最初に記載されている発明に係る次の請求の範囲について作成した。

追加調査手数料の異議の申立てに関する注意

- ☐ 追加調査手数料の納付と共に出願人から異議申立てがあった。
☒ 追加調査手数料の納付と共に出願人から異議申立てがなかった。

US 100884680FP1



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No.	Doccode	Number of pages
1	IDS	3
2	FOR	1
3	NPL	6

Total number of pages: 10

Remarks:

Order of re-scan issued on